(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) The total production of newsprint in the country during 1991-92 is estimated at 2.95 lakh MTs.

(b) The total requirement of newsprint in the country during 1991-93 is estimated at 5.60 lakh MTs.

(c) According to S.T.C. a total of 2.15 lakhs MTs (provisional figure) of newsprint valued at Rs. 332.00 crores has been improrted during 1991-92 (upto 15-2-1992).

(d) and (e) The question of taking steps will arise only if misuse of foreign exchange takes place after the scheme of decanalisation is introduced.

Sensitive border areas fed by Pak and Chinese TV

536. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) what according to the study, if any, made by Government are the sensitive border areas which are fed by Pak and Chinese TV and their radio broadcasting net-work ;

(b) whether Government have considered the desirability of installing transmitters in these sensitive area linking them with national network ;

(c) if so, what is the decision taken by Government in this regard ; and

(d) the period likely to be taken in spreading TV network to these sensitive border areas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) ; (a) Pakistan TV transmissions and radio broadcasts are being received in parts of the border areas of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat. Regular Chinese TV reception is not received in India, whereas broadcasts by Chinese radio are being received in the border areas in the North-East alongwith other parts of the country.

(b) to (d) Yes Sir. 96 TV transmitters of varying power are at present functioning in the border districts of the country. 34 TV transmitters are at various stages of implementation in these border districts. These would become operational in phases and by 1995 about 86% of the population in the border districts of the country is expected to be brought under TV coverage. These transmitters would be linked to Delhi via satellite for relay of National service programmes.

Linking of Bhopal Television Centre with Satellite for better productive results

537. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhopal Televison Centre will be of a limited capacity range to relay the programme and will not be able to cover up the whole of Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to link the State capital with other remote and underdeveloped areas of the State through T.V. network ; and

(c) whether Government would consider the desirability of linking Bhopal T.V. Centre with the Satellite for better T.V. communication of the State capital with other parts of State thereby helping in the economic development and progress of the State ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The existing TV transmitter functioning on 10 KW power at Bhopal is not expected to provide TV coverage to the entire State of Madhya Pradesh. Besides this transmitter, 53 transmitters of varying powers are providing coverage to an estimated 57.4% population of the State.

(b) and (c) It is proposed to link all the TV transmitters in the State of Madhya Pradesh with Doordarshan Kendra, Bhopal *via* satellite mode of linkage. Whereas the TV Studio Centre at Bhopal has been made technically ready, the Uplink Earth Station at Bhopal is in advanced stage of completion. The regional service will be introduced subject to the availability of adequate space segment capacity.

इलैक्ट्रानिक माध्यमों को सुझाव देने के लिए अन्तरविभागीय समिति

538. श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इलैक्ट्रॉनिक माध्यमों में प्रतिद्वन्दिता शुरू करने सम्बन्धी सुझाव देने के लिए कोई अन्तर-विभागीय समिति गठित की गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस समिति ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (कुमारी गिरिजा व्यास) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां।

(ग) सरकार द्वारा रिपोर्ट की जांच की जा रही है।

Improving audibility of Urdu Service of AIR

539. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1091 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st March, 1990 and state the fresh steps Government have taken for improving the quality of audibility of Urdu Service of All India Radio for domestic listeners.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : There is no proposal, at present, to change the basic character of the Urdu service of All India Radio from one directed to Urdu speaking audiences of the West and North-West Indian Sub-continent into one covering areas deep inside the country.

Anti-India propaganda from across the border

540. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI :
DR. ABRAR AHMED :
CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is uninterrupted flow of anti-India propaganda from across the borders of Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government have been urged repeatedly to set up a T.V. Station at Jammu to counter this anti-India propaganda ;